

Message Text

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PASS SIEVERING, VANDERRYN, ERDA

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: OECD INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY WORKING
GROUP ON COAL TECHNOLOGY

REPORT RECEIVED THROUGH BRITISH SOURCES:

1. NATIONAL COAL BOARD (NCB) HOSTED MEETING OF WORKING
GROUP ON COAL TECHNOLOGY, ON FEB.10,AT HOBART HOUSE,
LDN. MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY LESLIE GRAINGER, MEMBER OF
NCB FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. REPRESENTATIVES WERE
PRESENT FROM USA (4 REPS), JAPAN, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM,
CANADA, FRG, NETHERLANDS, EEC, OECD, AND UK.

WORKING GROUP

ON COAL TECHNOLOGY IS ONE OF NINE UNDER SUB GROUP ON
ENERGY R & D, ALL OF WHICH WERE SCHEDULED TO MEET
BETWEEN 13 JAN. AND 13 FEB. FOR PURPOSE OF PRE-
PARING DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATIVE ENERGY R & D
PROGRAMS FOR CONSIDERATION AT SLT/ERD MEETING IN PARIS

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ON FEB.20.

2. WORKING GROUP AGREED THAT MAIN AREAS OF COAL R & D SHOULD BE:

A. RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND PROSPECTING TECHNIQUES.

B. COAL MINING TECHNOLOGY, INCL. ASSESSMENT OF ADVANCED MINING TECHNIQUES.

C. COAL GASSIFICATION.

D. COAL LIQUIFICATION.

E. COAL COMBUSTION IN POWER GENERATION.

F. TECHNICAL/ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT. IT WAS FURTHER AGREED THAT WORK UNDER HEADINGS A AND B TAKEN TOGETHER WERE OF GREATEST URGENCY AND FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE AND THAT IEA SHOULD BE URGED TO ENDORSE AN IMMEDIATE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OF R & D INTO COAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND COAL MINING TECHNOLOGY. PROPOSED PRIORITY AREA ORIGINATED WITH USA (RESOURCE ASSESSMENT) AND UK (COAL MINING TECHNOLOGY) BUT WAS ENDORSED BY FULL WORKING GROUP ON BASIS THAT IT IS IMPERATIVE TO KNOW FULL EXTENT OF COAL RESOURCES IN TERMS OF QUANTITY, QUALITY AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND THAT IT IS OF CRITICAL IMPORTANCE TO IMPROVE DAILY OUTPUT AND EFFICIENCY IN ECONOMIC AND MANPOWER TERMS, CONSISTENT WITH INCREASED SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE OPERATIONS.

3. INTERESTING SIDE ISSUE WAS APPARENTLY NATURAL ASSUMPTION BY UK CHAIRMAN THAT IT IS ECONOMICALLY PREFERABLE TO CARRY OUT COAL CONVERSION TO LIQUID OR GASEOUS FUELS IN CONSUMING COUNTRIES AND FOR THIS REASON DESIRES OF COAL PRODUCING NATIONS FOR FURTHER UP-GRADING PRIOR TO EXPORT SHOULD BE RESISTED.

4. COPIES OF FINAL DRAFT OF REPORT OF WORKING PARTY BEING MAILED BY CHAIRMAN WORKING PARTY DIRECTLY TO THOSE IN ATTENDANCE.
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